

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method of producing a viable hybrid zygote cell or early embryonic cell having a single functional mitochondrial population, comprising the step of introducing genomic DNA from a mitochondrially depleted mammalian donor cell into a recipient mammalian cell of the same species from which genomic DNA has been removed, wherein the recipient cell is an oocyte, a zygote, or a cell from a two-cell embryo.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the recipient cell is in an arrested state during DNA removal.

Claim 4 (original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the recipient cell is an oocyte which is arrested at metaphase of the second meiotic division when the genomic DNA is removed.

Claim 5 (previously presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of reactivation of the recipient cell after the genomic DNA has been removed, and preferably after the introduction of genomic DNA from the donor cell.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (withdrawn) A method of producing a cloned embryo comprising the steps of

(i) introducing genetic material comprising at least genomic DNA from a donor cell into an enucleated recipient cell whereby to form a hybrid cell,

- (ii) introducing sperm mitochondria into said recipient cell or said hybrid cell, and
- (iii) causing said hybrid cell to divide to become an embryo.

Claim 9 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 6, wherein step (ii) is undertaken prior to said hybrid cell dividing to form an embryo.

Claim 10 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 6, wherein step (ii) is effected by introducing sperm mid pieces and tails.

Claim 11 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 6, further comprising the initial step of mitochondrially depleting said donor cell such that the hybrid cell produced has a single functional mitochondrial population.

Claim 12 (withdrawn) A cloned embryo producible according to the method of claim 6.

Claim 13 (withdrawn) An animal producible from the cloned embryo in accordance with claim 10.

Claim 14 (withdrawn) A method of producing a hybrid cell from a non-differentiated stem cell, said method comprising the step of (i) introducing cytoplasm from a donor oocyte into an undifferentiated stem cell, whereby to cause said undifferentiated stem cell to behave as a recently fertilised oocyte.

Claim 15 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of mitochondrially depleting the stem cell prior to the introduction of cytoplasm from the donor oocyte.

Claim 16 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of introducing sperm mitochondria into the stem cell at the same time as, or prior to step (i).

Claim 17 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of introducing sperm mitochondria into the hybrid cell after step (i) has been effected.

Claim 18 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 14, wherein the introduction of sperm mitochondria is effected by introducing sperm mid pieces and tails.

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (withdrawn) A method of increasing the viability of an oocyte, a zygote or an embryonic cell, including an androgenone or a gynogenone, having abnormally low numbers of mitochondria, comprising the step of introducing at least genomic DNA and cytoplasm from an oocyte, a zygote or an embryonic cell, including an androgenone or a gynogenone, having abnormally low numbers of mitochondria into a recipient undifferentiated stem cell from which the genomic DNA has been removed.

Claim 22 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of introducing sperm mitochondria into said recipient cell.

Claim 23 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said sperm mitochondria are introduced into said recipient cell at the same time as, or shortly after the introduction of the embryonic genomic DNA and cytoplasm.

Claim 24 (withdrawn) An animal producible from an oocyte, zygote or embryonic cell which has been subjected to the method of claim 21.

Claim 25 (withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the donor cell and/or the recipient cell is genetically modified.